

THE NEW PLAYS

"The Son-Daughter" a Belasco Triumph

By CHARLES DARNTON

THAT rare thing, the real thrill of the theatre, was felt at the Belasco last night when "The Son-Daughter" proved to be David Belasco's finest production since "The Darling of the Gods." To anyone knowing the artistic care that the leader of our stage always gives to a play associated with his name, it was not surprising to find an Oriental curtain surrounded by a Chinese temple. But it was surprising to discover this "play of new China" to be a play of old familiar Chinatown, and for one, I must say the discovery was a happy one, since familiarity in this instance, far from breeding contempt, aided understanding. Moreover, there was a glamour about it all that gave an inner glimpse of Chinatown little short of a revelation to the occasional chop suey visitor—and this means the magic touch of Belasco. Season in and season out he remains the wonder of the stage.

It is a curious fact that George Scarborough and Mr. Belasco, as authors, have kept their pens out of France, turned them Eastward at a late date, yet at the same time made "The Son-Daughter" the most impressive war play of the period. It takes genius to make people turn around, look the other way, and be interested—that is, intensely interested—in what they see.

Back of the play is the Chinese revolution. Lien Wha, who still plays with her dolls, has been making eyes through her window at Tom Lee, who happens to be a student at Columbia and is the son of a prince. He goes along modestly until he is told his father has been killed, and that he must lead the army waiting for a leader. He really doesn't matter, so far as the audience is concerned. It's Lien Wha, the little heroine of the affair, who has to work like a major. Her father is one of four men who are called upon to put up their daughters at auction so that \$100,000 may be given to the cause of liberty. The game goes along until Lien Wha, as a auctioneer and finally sells herself to the gambler, Pen-Sha, for the money that is needed for ammunition and arms, \$100,000. But at the end everything is not lost. The charming young prince is still alive, though badly wounded, when the final curtain is coming down.

Lenore Ulric was charming in the comedy moments of the play, but she failed to touch the note of pathos necessary to the scene in which she sells herself for her country—a really great scene so far as the stage goes. Harry Monty as the gambler, and Albert Bruns as the revolutionist, acted as good actors should act; Edmund Lowe played the lover fairly well, and other actors were true to their American gods.

In the last act of the play Miss Ulric was strong enough to knock over a lamp, throttle a bad Chinaman with his own hair, and by this means give glorified melodrama a happy ending.

First and last of all, "The Son-Daughter" is a Belasco triumph.

About Plays and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

WALTER HAMPDEN has been engaged to play the title role in the religious dramatic spectacle, "The Wayfarer," which will be presented at Madison Square Garden beginning Dec. 15. "The Wayfarer" was produced last summer in Columbus, O., and in three weeks attracted 175,000 patrons.

CAN THIS BE ART?

J. J. Rosenthal has sent us a clipping from a Chicago newspaper showing a picture of Evelyn Connell "Up in Mabel's Room" manuring and vamping a callow youth in a hotel lobby for the benefit of the actors' fund. The young man is looking into her eyes as though he were simply wooing with admiration. On the clipping is written, "The man is S. Jay Kaufman."

Well, now, S. J. What of this?

TO DRAW THE PRINCE.

When the Prince goes to the Hippodrome to-morrow night Bert Levy will draw his picture on a cartoon screen. Mr. Levy, a different times, appeared before King Edward and King George and drew likenesses of them.

WHY EDDIE KNEW.

Eddie Jones, a colored attaché of the Strand Theatre, entered the office of Managing Director Eaton yesterday and said: "Boss, they're a fat man outside who wants to see you. He says he'd like to sing at the Brooklyn Strand next week. He's got a sweet voice and is the best tenor singer in the business outside of Enrico L'Amore." "How do you know that, Eddie?" asked Mr. Eaton. "Why, he told me so, himself," said Eddie.

WHEN IBANEZ APPLAUDED.

Senor Vicente Ibanez Ibanez, Spanish author, who is to talk at the Fulton Theatre Sunday evening, made a funny mistake the other evening in Brooklyn. On that occasion he was accompanied by an English interpreter who, when introducing Senor Ibanez, compared him to Victor Hugo. The Spanish writer, hearing the name of Hugo, whom he idolizes, did not realize the significance of its use and roared heartily in the applause that followed. When the situation was explained to him later he blushed.

GOSSIP.

Lincoln A. Wagenhals and Mrs. Wagenhals are in ill with blood poisoning at the Misericordia Hospital. Joe Canoly reports Harry Bulger, "The Flirting Princess," doing well in court.

Edi Dyrt, who danced well in the society fete at Huntington last Sep-

tember, is in "The Rose of China" as Louise Brownell.

Dave Genaro and Anna Gold have a new vaudeville skit by James Madison.

Mme. Luisa Tetrazzini will sing at the Hippodrome Sunday afternoon, Nov. 30, instead of next Sunday.

Max Seydel is contributing a harp solo to the entertainment at the Rivoli this week.

Roshanara will give a dance recital at the Greenwich Village Theatre a week from Sunday night.

Walter Wilson has been engaged by the Messrs. Shubert for the cast of the new Kinkaid play, "The Mood of the Moon."

Dorothy Dickson has signed a contract with Oliver Morosco to be leading woman for William Courtenay in "Civilian Clothes."

Charlotte Greenwood will begin an engagement at the Fulton to-night in "Linger, Linger, Letty."

Ernest Glendinning has been engaged to support Billie Burke in "Caesar's Wife," opening at the Liberty Monday.

Harold Orlin, composer of "Just a Minute" and "Nothing but Love," is to write music for Ned Wayburn's Demi-Tasse Revue.

Rose Coghlan will play an important part in "The Whirlwind," which John Gort has put in rehearsal.

A. H. Woods has placed in rehearsal Channing Pollock's new melodrama, "A Room at the Ritz." Mary Ryan, Lowell Sherman and Lee Baker head the cast.

Twelve of the young women instructors at the Pabst Harlem Dance are to give exhibitions of character dancing in costume at that place on Wednesday.

A dedicatory performance will be held at the Capitol Theatre Saturday morning in honor of the late Richard Harding Davis, at which time the film "Soldiers of Fortune," made from his book, will be shown. Beatie McCoy Davis and daughter, Hope, aged four, will be present.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

Child Harkness of Wellsville, has just received from Chicago a diploma which authorizes him to mesmerize people. It cost him only \$15.

FOOLISHMENT.

A Huntington fellow named Ooper. Once joined the air force as a super. Said he: "When I fly, I shall soar pretty high, But I'll be no darn fool loop-the-looper."

FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE.

(By Ned Lockney.)

Fight Fan-I see that Jim Corbett is called Gentleman Jim.

Promoter-No doubt that will make Jimmy Wilde.

LITTLE MARY MIXUP



THE BIG LITTLE FAMILY



JOE'S CAR



LEAVE IT TO LOU.



DOROTHY



No High Tackles, Mary

Give Him the Air, Luke!

Two Guesses--Will Joe Be Delighted?

"Phoney" Conversation, Say We!

Pop Must Be Hitting About 500!

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